



The Slow Fix

Ivan E. Coyote

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"Coyote is an important literary voice, blending a keen sense of gay identity and community with a refreshing appreciation for the goodness at the heart of some straight people."—*Out*

The first three story collections by Ivan E. Coyote featured insightful, deeply personal tales about gender, identity, and community, based on her own experiences growing up lesbian in Canada's North. Ivan's most recent book, *Bow Grip*, was her first novel; it was shortlisted for the Ferro-Grumley Prize for Women's Fiction, was named a Stonewall Honor Book by the American Library Association, and won Canada's ReLit Award for Best Novel of the Year.

With *The Slow Fix*, Ivan returns to her short story roots in a collection that is disarming, warm, and funny, while it at the same time subverts our preconceived notions of gender roles. Ivan excels at finding the small yet significant truths in our everyday gestures and interactions. By doing so, she helps us to embrace not what makes us women or men, but human beings.

Ivan E. Coyote is the author of five books, all published by Arsenal Pulp Press. Born in Canada's Yukon Territory, she lives in Vancouver, BC.

The Slow Fix Details

Date : Published April 1st 2009 by Arsenal Pulp Press (first published September 1st 2008)

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Author : Ivan E. Coyote

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From Reader Review The Slow Fix for online ebook

Megan says

I really enjoyed this collection of stories. I enjoyed getting a glimpse into the life of Ivan.

Carolyn says

This has some of my favourite Ivan Coyote stories of all time. I would definitely reread this volume. There are stories here that are so important, I wish every queer kid could read it, because many need it. I wish every ignorant Canadian who doesn't understand why gender neutral bathrooms are a necessity would read this book. Everyone who thinks it's okay to force kids into gendered boxes. I can't stress how lucky we are that Ivan is Canadian. Yukon pride is a strong feature in this book and I loved it.

Lbaker says

The stories in this book show the maturing of the author.

I find it so easy to relate to the voice in this book, her extended family and friends are familiar, as I read each book by this author I find myself reading bits of it aloud to my daughters, my husband, anyone at hand. The humour is infectious, the insights touching and the informative. I must admit that before reading Ivan E. Coyote's books I had never given thought to public bathroom use by people who's gender is not apparent, and will probably think about it every time I use a public bathroom from now on.

I appreciate this author's skills and hope to read much more by her.

Karli says

I generally really like Ivan's work, and I wanted to love these stories. These short short stories feel unfinished; they're bursting with the potential to go amazing places, but they just end. They're like rockets that fizzle out just after you shout "blast off!" But they should soar; they could soar if Ivan built on and extended the clever analogies, metaphors, and imagery, and really let them take off.

Joe says

I will read anything by Ivan Coyote. This book is as wonderful and captivating as all the others, just a joy to read. It's insightful, moving, funny, poignant, all rolled into one.

Straw says

I absolutely adore Ivan Coyote. His ability to document the experience of aging gender queers in this society gives voice to my feelings. Plus, he is one of the few people that was not a let down when I met him. As gentlemanly as one would imagine from the books. If you ever get a chance to see him read his work you should.

Robyn says

This is the third collection of short stories I have read by Ivan Coyote. While I've rated each book four stars, I think this collection is my favorite.

As other reviewers have mentioned, these stories are quite short -- most are just four pages.

Emerson Curtright says

Less of a short story collection and more of a collection of short autobiographical vignettes. At times they are touching and poignant. I found myself relating to these short and sweet moments more than I could count. However, I wish these shorts had been fleshed out more so we could really linger on the sweet moments. I found that I also wished these stories had a more prominent narrative structure. Like I said, these are merely vignettes about what I can only assume are real moments in Coyote's real life.

Justina says

I never felt so connected to a book before and I have felt really connected to a lot of books. This is amazing.

Brook says

A series of delightful stories, that ranged all-over from family, to heritage, to figuring out masculinity. This was a sharp turn from a lot of what I read, but it was cute and kinda fun. A few stories were particularly touching, but many had a sort of same-ness, that a friend suggested came from them potentially being columns first?

Elaine Burnes says

This was terrific. A slim volume of short stories. She says they are fiction, but they read like personal essays--apparently culled from a column she writes. She's Canadian, living in Vancouver, BC (and thereabouts) and travels far and wide giving performances. Many of these are lovely character sketches of the folks she meets in her travels--little slices of life. There are also some lovely tales of being a modern butch, the good and the

bad (I just had no idea how intimidating a public bathroom could be!). Would make a nice followup to Stone Butch Blues, to know that butches not only survived, they can thrive.

Jocelynn says

Loved this.

Comical, and laugh-out-loud but heartfelt and I totally relate to the pain in the words and the life stories. It's nice to see my queer, gender non-conforming self represented in books.

Really relate to the pronoun commentary that's exactly what I say to people, too.

Sarah says

It's kind of inspiring to read Ivan Coyote's publications out of chronological order - not that the stories mean more or less if they're in order, but to put in perspective the shifts of focus, identity, and politics that accompany and refine every publication. Especially fun to pick up threads of "Bow Grip" in this one, seeing the little mentions of people/places/things that influenced the novel. All of Ivan Coyote's charm, in little bite-sized stories.

Emily says

These autobiographical short stories are phenomenal. Most are fewer than 5 pages long, many are about perceptions of gender, but all are about finding one's place in the world. In the end, they are about the folds of community, the weave of the fabric, and I was really impressed with the depth and feeling that Coyote conveys in such little space.

Distant Sounds says

A wonderful insight into the life experiences of Ivan, told through short stories, as anecdotes, each just 3-4 pages in length. I learnt a good deal about life in the Yukon, life as someone who is non-binary, and as someone who is on the move a lot. Even though each story is over in the blink of an eye, they each carry their own weight in abundance, whether they make you laugh and smile, or carry a deep emotional tale. As a white, heterosexual male, there are many things I take for granted every day, especially when out in public, but these stories allowed to see inside a world that exists all around me, yet at the same time is mostly invisible.

Wherever you are Francis, I hope you are doing well.
